



**U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement**

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News Release

COLORADO SPRINGS MAN INDICTED FOR PRODUCING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

DENVER — A Colorado Springs, Colo., man was indicted by a federal grand jury here late yesterday on child pornography charges, announced the acting U.S. Attorney for the District of Colorado, and the Denver office of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

Roger Deatherage, 53, is presently in state custody after being the subject of a manhunt lead by the Colorado Springs Police Department for related state charges. Colorado Springs Crimestoppers played an integral role in apprehending Deatherage. The U.S. Marshal Service will be ordered to transfer Deatherage from state to federal custody for federal court proceedings. No initial appearance date has yet been set.

According to the indictment, between Aug. 27 and Nov. 14, 2004, Deatherage allegedly induced a minor to engage in sexually explicit conduct to produce child pornography. Deatherage is also charged with possessing child pornography, including possessing computer files containing at least 17 images of minors engaged in sexual activity.

"Our ICE special agents throughout Colorado enjoy a partnership with local law enforcement – such as the Colorado Springs Police Department – that ultimately leads to removing criminals from our streets," said Jeffrey Copp, special agent-in-charge of the ICE Denver office. "In this partnership, everybody wins, except the criminals. However, one of our highest priorities is protecting our nation's greatest resource – our children – from child pornographers and predators." Copp heads the ICE Office of Investigations in Denver, which includes the states of Colorado, Wyoming, Montana and Idaho.

"Production of child pornography is one of the most egregious child exploitation crimes our office prosecutes," said Acting U.S. Attorney Bill Leone. "The facts of this case and the related state prosecution allege that this dangerous individual not only harmed an innocent child, but that he also documented that criminal behavior for him and possibly others to use and distribute later."

If convicted of producing child pornography, Deatherage faces a mandatory minimum of 15 years and up to 30 years in federal prison, and/or a \$250,000 fine. If convicted of possessing child pornography, he faces up to 10 years in prison and/or a \$250,000 fine. A federal judge will determine the actual sentence.

This case was investigated by the Colorado Springs Police Department and ICE special agents.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Valeria Spencer is prosecuting the case.

These charges are only allegations and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.